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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: UNGA EGEN

SUBJ: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING: NOVEMBER 14

SUMMARY: SECOND MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING WAS HELD NOVEMBER 14 COMMITTEE DEFERRED ELECTION OF OTHER OFFICERS UNTIL NOVEMBER 17. REPS OF US, UK FINLAND AND EGYPT MADE STATEMENTS ON THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK. INFORMAL MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HAD INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION ON THE STRUCTURE OF THE BUREAU WITH US URGING THAT THE COMMITTEE PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY IN EVOLVING A FORMAT. COMMITTEE WILL MEET IN INFORMAL SESSION ON MORNING OF NOVEMBER 17 TO CONTINUE THIS DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY.

1. THE SECOND MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING WAS HELD NOVEMBER 14. AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING, THE CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD BEEN ADVISED THAT ADDITIONAL TIME WAS NEEDED FOR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE ELECTION OF OTHER OFFICERS; ACCORDINGLY, HE PROPOSED DEFERRING THIS UNCLASSIFIED

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ITEM UNTIL THE NEXT FORMAL MEETING (MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17).

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES, UK, FINALND AND EGYPT MADE STATEMENTS ON THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE. A COPY OF THE US STATEMENT IS TRANSMITTED BELOW

- 2. THE FINNISH REP STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS, BOTH DURING THE FORMAL SESSION AND DURING THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD. AS A FIRST STEP, HE PROPOSED IDENTIFYING A LIST OF BROAD SUBJECT AREAS (E.G., ROLE AND PROGRAM OF THE GA AND THE GA'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES, OF THE SECRETARIAT, AND OF THE ARRAY OF SPECIAL FUNDS) AS A BASIS FOR PLANNING THE COMMITTEE'S WORK.
- 3. THE UK REP SAID THAT THE FIRST STEP SHOULD BE TO DEFINE THE ISSUES AND PROPOSED CHAPTER I OF THE EXPERTS GROUP REPORT AS A POSSIBLE PROTOTYPE. HE SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE SECRETARIAT WERE TO PREPARE A DIGEST OF THE RELEVANT OBSERVATIONS ON STRUCTURE MADE DURING THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION AND THE 30TH UNGA GENERAL DEBATE WHICH MIGHT INDICATE THE MOST UP-TO-DATE THINKING OF CAPITALS. ON THE QUESTION OF DOCUMENTATION, HE COMMENTED THAT THE COMMITTEE SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO ANY RELEVANT AND AVAILABLE MATERIAL BUT THAT EXACTLY WHICH DOCUMENTS WERE CENTRAL WOULD EMERGE MORE CLEARLY AS THE WORK PROGRESSES. TURNING TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMITTEE, HE PROPOSED A PRE-MIUN ON FLEXIBILITY ("AD HOC IN DEED AND METHOD") AND SUGGESTED THAT THE NEED TO GET DOWN TO DETAIL MIGHT NECES-SITATE REFERRING SOME MATTERS TO A SMALLER GROUP. WHILE ADMITTING TO THE DANGERS OF DISPERSING THE COMMITTEE'S EFFORTS, THE UK REP SAID THAT THIS SHOULD NOT BE AT THE EXPENSE OF EXCLUDING "THOSE WHO HAVE SOMETHING TO CONTRI-BUTE AND WHOSE RIGHT IT IS TO MAKE THAT CONTRIBUTION." FINALLY, HE NOTED THAT THE TIME FRAME ESTABLISHED FOR THE COMMITTEE'S WORK REQUIRED THE BEST POSSIBLE USE OF TIME BETWEEN NOW AND THE LATE SPRING "WHEN THE RHYTHM OF MAJOR INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS WILL ACCELERATE SIGNIFICANTLY."
- 4. THE EGYPTIAN REP SAID THAT THE COMMITTEE SHOULD AVOID SCHEDULING SESSIONS DURING THE MEETINGS OF ECOSOC (APRIL/MAY), GOVERNING COUNCIL OF UNEP, AND UNCTAD IV. HE UNCLASSIFIED

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THEREFORE PROPOSED A SECOND SESSION IN FEBRUARY (FOR A GENERAL DEBATE) AND A FURTHER SESSION IN JUNE (WHEN THE COMMITTEE COULD CONSIDER THE FINDINGS OF UNEP AND UNCTAD). HE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF REACHING CONSENSUS DECISIONS AND THOUGHT THAT THE COMMITTEE SHOULD LIMIT THE NUMBER OF ITS WORKING GROUPS.

5. FOLLOWING THE FORMAL SESSION, THE COMMITTEE MET

INFORMALLY TO DISCUSS THE ORGANIZATION OF ITS BUREAU. IN INTRODUCING THE SUBJECT, CHAIRMAN DADZIE NOTED THAT THE PREVIOUS PRACTICE OF AD HOC WORKING GROUPS HAD BEEN TO SET UP FIVE MAN BUREASUS (CHAIRMAN, 3 VICE CHAIRMAN, AND A RAPPORTEUR) WITH APPROPRIATE GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION. ITALY, POLAND, AND PEUR INDICATED GENERAL SUPPORT OF THIS STRUCTURE; MADAGASCAR (SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE G-77) SAID THAT THE G-77 WOULD BE MAKING A DECISION ON THIS ISSUE AT A LATER DATE. US REP POINTED OUT THAT THE PREVIOUS BUREAU STRUCTURES HAD NOT BEEN EFFECTIVE IN EARLIER AND MORE LIMITED RESTRUCTURING EXERCISES (E.G., JACKSON REPORT) HE ARGUED THAT THIS COMMITTEE WAS FACED WITH A FAR MORE COMPLICATED TASK TO ACCOMPLISH IN A SHORTER TIME FRAME. AND SHOULD NOT NOW FIX THE STRUCTURE SIMPLY BECAUSE OF PREVIOUS PRACTICE. INSTEAD, THE COMMITTEE SHOULD PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY IN EVOLVING ITS FORMAT. HE SAID THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL FIRST TO GAIN SOME UNDERSTANDING OF THE DIMENSIONS OF THE COMMITTEE'S TASK AND THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO FINALIZE JUDGMENT ON THE STRUCTURE OF THE COMMITTEE BEFORE DOING SO. FINALLY, HE NOTED THAT AN INTERIM ARRANGEMENT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE.

6. ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT, THE INDIAN REP, SUPPORTED BY ALGERIA, ARGUED THAT THIS SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE SHOULD INVITE GOVERNMENTS TO GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON RESTRUCTURING "IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS" IN ORDER TO AVOID HAVING THE EXERCISE TAKE PLACE IN A POLITICAL VACUUM. HE SAID THAT WORKING GROUPS COULD THEN BE ESTABLISHED TO HARMONIZE THE VIEWS OF GOVERNMENTS AND, IN EFFECT, DRAFT A FINAL REPORT. HE URGED THAT THE COMMITTEE NOTE GET BOGGED DOWN IN DETAILS.

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7. TAKISTAN URGED THAT THE COMMITTEE DECIDE ON THE BUREAU AT THIS SESSION AND SAID THAT IT WAS SAFEST TO FOLLOW THE TRADITIONAL 5-MAN BUREAU IN ORDER TO AVOID GEOGRPAHIC DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS. JAMAICA, IN TURN, ARGUED FOR FLEXIBILITY ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE COMMITTEE'S PERCEPTION OF ITS TASK WOULD EVOLVE OVER TIME AND THREFORE SO SHOULD ITS ORGANIZATION. HE POINTED OUT THAT WHILE THE VIEWS OF GOVERNMENTS WERE VITAL, THEY WERE ALSO VERY DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN. FINALLY, HE SUGGESTED THAT THE COMMITTEE START IT'S WORK BY DETERMINING WHAT IN THE UN SYSTEM NEEDS RESTRUCTURING.

8. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS DISCUSSION, CHAIRMAN DADZIE NOTED THAT A CONSENSUS HAD NOT EMERGED AND PROPOSED THT THE NOVEMBER 17 MORNING MEETING BE A CONTINUATION

OF THIS INFORMAL SESSION.

9. COMMENT: IN GOOD MEASURE, THE COMMITTEE IS STILL FLOUNDERING WITHOUT ANY CLEAR SENSE OF HOW TO GO ABOUT ITS TASK. US DEL HAS BEEN ACTIVE DURING FORMAL AND INFORMAL SESSIONS AS WELL AS IN THE CORRIDORS TRYING TO EXERT DIRECTION AS WELL AS LEADERSHIP AND BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE HAD SOME TENTATIVE SUCCESS IN STEERING THE COMMITTEE TOWARDS AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAM.

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MR. CHAIRMAN,

MY DELEGATION WISHES TO OFFER ITS WARM CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR UNANIMOUS ELECTION. THIS COMMITTEE UNDER YOUR LEADER-SHIP FACES AN ENORMOUS TASK WHICH REQUIRES SUCCESS IN AN AREA WHICH, ALL TOO FREQUENTLY, HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY STARTS AND STOPS, THE NET RESULT OF WHICH IS A UN SYSTEM IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AREA WHICH OFTEN DEFIES LOGIC, CONTROL OF EFFECTIVE COORDINATION. NEVERTHELESS, AS I LISTENED YESTERDAY TO YOUR

THOUGHTFUL AND COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF THE ISSUES BEFORE US, I WAS REASSURED THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR LEADING US TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION COULD BE IN NO BETTER HANDS.

AS THOSE WHO PARTICIPTED IN THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION WILL RECALL, THE UNITED STATES STRONGLY SUPPORTED THIS BODY'S CREATION. WE HAVE BELIEVED--AND WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE--THAT RATIONALIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE SYSTEM WILL SERVE THE COMMON INTERESTS OF ALL COUNTRIES OVER AND BEYOND ANY DIFLINGLASSIFIED

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FERENCES REGARDING POLICY QUESTION OR IDEOLOGY. AS SECRETARY KISSINGER INDICATED IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE SPECIAL SESSION, WE CONSIDER THAT REVIEW AND REFORM OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IS A PRIORITY IN ANY STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT.

SIR, WITHIN THE PAST FEW YEARS AND DURING THE NEXT 12 MONTHS, THE UN HAS UNDERGONE AND WILL BE UNDERGOING A SERIES OF IMPORTANT CHANGES IN KEY OPERATIONAL PERSONNEL. SO FAR THERE HAVE BEEN NEW EXECUTIVE HEADS OF THE WHO, THE ILO, THE UNCTAD, UNEP, UNESCO, UNIDO, AND ESA. THIS WEEK HAS SEEN THE ELECTION OF A NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO. THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS ADVISED MY GOVERNMENT OF HIS INTENTION TO NAME A NEW ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNDP. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SEVEARL OTHER BODIES WILL SEE NEW, HOPEFULLY VIGOROUS ADMINISTRATIONS ELECTED DURING THE NEXT 18 MONTHS. THERE HAS NEVER BEEN SUCH A SHORT PERIOD IN THE HISTORY OF THE UN COMMUNITY IN WHICH SUCH A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF THE TOP ADMINISTRATIVE POSTS HAVE CHANGED HANDS.

I DO NOT WISH TO MINIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THOSE DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMEN WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US, MANY OF WHOM HAD INDIVIDUALIZED APPROACHES AND PHILOSOPHIES WITH RESPECT TO THE UN SYSTEM BUT IT DOES SEEM TO US THAT THE PRESENT CONFLUENCE OF CIRCUMSTANCES AFFORDS US A RARE OPPORTUNITY TO HARMONIZE AND SYNCHRONIZE THE MANY INTER-RELATED ACTIVITES OF THE UN SYSTEM-- A BETTER OPPORTUNITY THAN HAS EVER EXISTED BEFORE. IF WE SHOULD FAIL TO SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MOLD A SYSTEM THAT IS RESPONSIVE, EFFECTIVE, AND ECONOMICAL, I DOUBT THAT WE WHO SIT HERE TODAY WILL BE PRESENT WHEN ANOTHER SUCH OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF. MY DELEGATION, THEREFORE, ACCEPTS THE CHALLENGE AND WELCOMES THE CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE COMMITTEE'S DELIBERATIONS WITH A VIEW TOWARD ACHIEVING EFFECTIVE RESULTS THAT ALL CAN SUPPORT.

WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I WOULD SET FORTH BRIEFLY SOME PRE-LIMINARY VIEWS THAT BEAR ON THE WORK PROGRAM. IN THE FIRST IN-STANCE, IN CALENDAR YEAR 1976 THE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND TRAVEL REQUIRED IS ALREADY DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE. OB- VIOUSLY, THEREFORE, WE NEED PROMPTLY TO FOCUS ON A TIMETABLE THAT WILL ENABLE THE COMMITTEE TO PASS AT THE VERY LEAST A UNCLASSIFIED

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QUITE SUBSTANTIAL REPORT TO THE 61ST SESSION OF ECOSOC. WORKING BACK FROM NEXT JULY SUGGESTS HOW INTENSIVE OUR WORK MUST BE. A SCHEDULE THAT CAN BE RESPECTED IS NECESSARY IN OUR VIEW.

SECONDLY, THOUSANDS OF PAGES OF TESTIMONY AND STAFF STUDIES HAVE PRECEDED THE SEVERAL DOCUMENTS BEFORE US, INCLUD-ING NOTABLY THE REPORT OF THE GROUP OF 25 EXPERTS--IT WOULD BE VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO STUDY ALL OF THIS DOCUMENTATION IN A PLENARY BODY OR A SERIES OF SMALLER WORKING GROUPS OR TASK FORCES. TO DO SO WOULD BE TO RUN THE RISK OF SAYING "LESS AND LESS ABOUT MORE AND MORE UNTIL WE SAY NOTHING ABOUT EVERY-THING." MY DELEGATION HOPES, THEREFORE, THAT WE CAN FIND SOME EFFICIENT MEANS TO DEVELOPMENT A COMPENDIUM OF RECOM-MENDATIONS--PERHAPS A SERIES OF ALTERNATIVES--SO STRUC-TURED THAT THEY CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN OVER-ALL SYSTEM. WE SHOULD ALSO PROVIDE FOR THE INTRODUCTION, HOPEFULLY BY SOME PREVIOUSLY AGREED TIME LIMIT OF NEW PROPOSALS, IDEAS OR RECOMMENDATIONS. IRRESPECTIVE OF WHAT SUCH A COMPENDIUM MIGHT ULTIMATELY BE CALLED, IT SHOULD IN OUR VIEW BECOME THE BASIS FOR IN-DEPTH DISCUSSIONS ON THE CREATION OF A NEW UN SYSTEM.

THIRDLY, A MAJOR RESTRUCTURING OF THE UN SYSTEM WILL INEVITABLY INVOLVE THE COOPERATION OF A WIDE RANGE OF INTERESTED PARTIES WHOSE INTERESTS WILL BE AFFECTED. YET, WHOLE-HEARTED COOPERATION WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO ACHIEVE REFORMS WHICH ARE WORTHWHILE AND LASTING. WE SEE, THEREFORE, THE NEED FOR A THOUGHTFUL AND INTENSIVE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS AT EACH STAGE OF OUR EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE COOPERATION AND TO AVOID FEAR, SUSPICIONS, FOOT-DRAGGING, OR EVEN OPER OPPOSITION TO THE REFORM PROCESS.

MR. CHAIRMAN, IF THE COMMITTEE CAN WORK OUT A TIMETABLE AND A METHOD THAT WILL IN FACT PRODUCE A DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR REFORM, WE WOULD SEE AT THAT STAGE THE NEED FOR PRELIMINARY COMMENTS UPON THE PACKAGE AT THE APPROPRIATE INTERGOVERNMENTAL LEVEL. THEREAFTER, WE SUGGEST THAT OPPORTUNITY SHOULD BE PROVIDED FOR INCORPORATION OF MODIFICATIONS, TAKING ACCOUNT OF RESERVATIONS, AND THERAFTER A QUALITATIVE REVISION OF THE PRELIMINARY PRODUCT. IF WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET THAT FAR BY THE TIME OUR EFFORTS ARE SUBMITTED TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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COUNCIL, A MAJOR STEP FORWARD WOULD HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

MY DELEGATION FURTHER BELIEVES THAT ANY RESTRUCTURING FINALLY CONFIRMED BY THE 31ST OR SUBSEQUENT GENERAL ASSEMBLIES SHOULD PROVIDE FOR A CONTINUING MONITORING OF THE RESULTS. IF WE CONCEDE THAT SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS REMAIN VARIABLE, CERTAINLY IT OFLLOWS THAT THE RELEVANT UN ORGANS SHOULD BE ADAPTABLE.

MR. CHAIRM, I HAVE DELIBERATELY REFRAINED FROM VENTURING INTO THE SUBSTANCE OF THE COMPLEX MATTERS BEFORE US AND CONFINED MYSELF TO A PROCEDURAL OUTLINE. MY DELEGATION IS, OF COURSE, NOT RIGID IN ITS VIEWS ON OUR WORK PROGRAM. WE SHALL LISTEN WITH GREAT INTEREST TO THE VIEW OF OTHERS AND WISH TO ASSURE YOU AND THEM OF OUR COOPERATION. UNQTE MOYNIHAN

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